

Jesus who helped people

by
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THE STORIES IN THIS BOOK

Jesus and a Sick Child

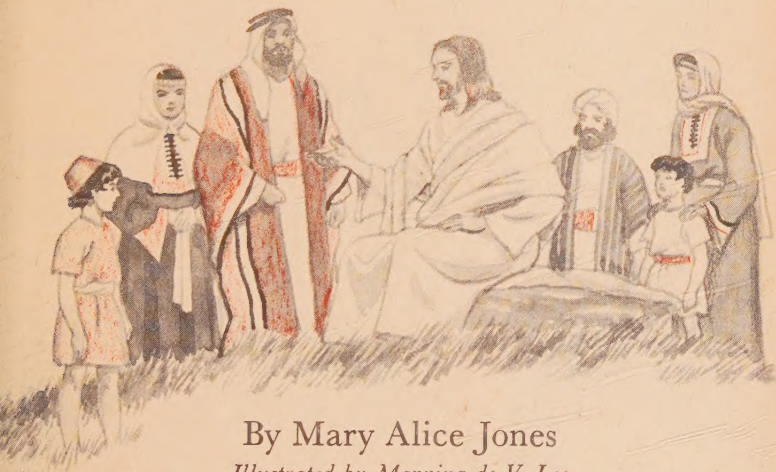
A Man Who Was Lonesome

Helping Angry Men Understand


Friends Who Were Afraid



JESUS WHO HELPED PEOPLE



By Mary Alice Jones
Illustrated by Manning de V. Lee

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JESUS AND A SICK CHILD

JAIRUS pushed his way through the crowd. He was almost running, though he looked very tired. He had to find Jesus. He had to find him right now.

Now, Jairus was an important man in the town where he lived. The people liked him and listened when he spoke. But as he came hurrying toward Jesus, Jairus did not look like an important man. He was in trouble, and needed Jesus.

“Please,” he called out as soon as he was near enough to be heard, “please come help me. My little girl is very sick. The doctors say they can’t help her.” Jairus wiped the dust from his face. “You know how to help sick people. Please come.”



Just then some people came looking for Jairus. "Do not trouble Jesus to come," they said. "No one can help the little girl now." Jairus was afraid. He thought his little girl had died.

Jesus put his hand on Jairus' shoulder. "Don't be afraid. I will come."





Jairus turned quickly toward his home with Jesus by his side.

When they came to Jairus' house, there were many friends and relatives there. They were crying. Jesus spoke to them. "Do not cry. The child is not dead." But they did not believe him.

So Jesus told the people to stay outside. He knew crying people would not help. Then Jesus went with the mother and daddy into the little girl's room.

How still she lay! Jesus went close to the bed. He stood quietly for a moment looking at the little girl lovingly. He thought of the mother and



daddy who were so sad. He thought of God who loved them all and wanted them to be well and happy. He knew that God was there with them. Jesus took the little girl's hand in his. He spoke gently. "Child, wake up."





The little girl opened her eyes. She saw the kind face of Jesus. She knew he was helping her. She felt better!

She saw her mother and daddy. She smiled at them. Then she spoke. "I'm hungry," she said.

The mother and daddy ran to her and put their arms around her. Then they looked at Jesus, their faces full of wonder. They had thought their child was dead! Now they knew she was alive. How Jesus loved people! How much he helped people!

They tried to speak. But Jesus smiled at them. "Give the little girl something to eat," he said. And he slipped away, leaving the little girl with her mother and daddy.







A MAN WHO WAS LONESOME

MATTHEW was lonesome. He had no friends. He sat in his office thinking.

“Nobody likes me,” he thought.
“None of the friends I had talk with me any more. They do not invite me to come to see them. They look the other way when they see me coming.”

Matthew knew why his friends had stopped liking him. He knew it was because he was working for the Romans. His friends hated the Romans. The Romans had won a war. Now they ruled over Matthew's people. They were angry because the Romans made them pay taxes.





They talked about Matthew. “Matthew has turned against his own people,” they said. “He works for our enemies, and he cheats.” So Matthew was lonesome as he sat in his office thinking.

Just then Matthew saw someone at his door. He looked up expecting to see a scowling face. Instead, he saw a friendly face. It was Jesus.

Matthew had heard Jesus teach. Now Jesus had come to see him! As Matthew looked at Jesus, he was ashamed of all the wrong he had done. He wanted to be good. He wanted to help his people instead of cheat them.

Then Jesus talked with Matthew.

Jesus knew that Matthew wanted to be good. He said, "Come, Matthew. Leave what you have been doing. Come, be one of my helpers."

How good it was to have someone want him! How good it was to have



someone trust him ! Matthew knew that Jesus could help him be the good, friendly man he wanted to be.

So Matthew left his office and went with Jesus. And he became a good friend to his people.





HELPING ANGRY MEN UNDERSTAND

JESUS and his friends did not have any horse or car to use when they traveled. They had to walk from one place to another even when it was far.

One day they were walking along the road toward the big city of Jerusalem. They went through a part of the

country where the people did not like travelers to Jerusalem. They thought those who went to Jerusalem were their enemies. As Jesus and his friends walked, it grew late. It was a long time since they had had anything to eat. They needed a place to eat and a place to spend the night.

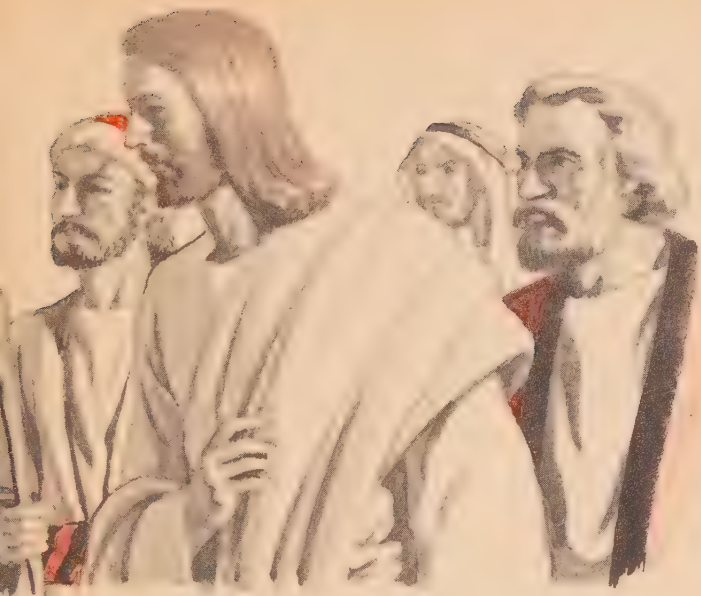




“I will go ahead and find a place,” one of Jesus’ friends said. So he ran ahead of the others toward the town.

After a little while he came hurrying back. His clothes were torn. He was very angry.

“They will not let us stay in the



town,” he shouted angrily. “See, they hit me. They drove me out of town.”

The other friends became angry, too. “It is a wicked town,” James said. “A town that will not give travelers something to eat and a place to stay at night is a wicked town.”

John turned to Jesus. "Let us ask God to send down fire to burn up the wicked town," he said.

Jesus shook his head. "You do not understand. God does not want us to hurt people. He wants us to help."

John was still angry. "But, teacher,





we need something to eat and a place to stay. They are wicked.”

“Yes, John. Come, let us go on farther. We will find food and a place where we can stay.” Then he smiled at his angry friends. “But not by burning down the towns,” he said.

So they went on to another town. They found food and a place to stay.



FRIENDS WHO WERE AFRAID

JESUS and his friends were in a boat. They were going across a big lake. The water was calm. The friends knew how to sail the boat.

Jesus went to the back of the boat. He was tired. Soon he went to sleep. The boat sailed on.

Then suddenly everything changed. The sky turned black. The wind blew hard. The calm sea became full of roaring waves.

The water dashed over the sides of the boat. The men were afraid.





One of the men called to Jesus, “Teacher, we are in a bad storm! The boat may sink! Help us!”

Jesus woke up. He looked at the roaring waves of the lake. “Peace! Be still,” he said. He looked at his frightened friends. He spoke quietly. “Why are you afraid? Have you no faith? God is with you.”

As quickly as it had come, the storm passed.



The wind was no longer howling about them. The waves were no longer pounding the boat. The men went back to work sailing the boat. But they wondered.

“Jesus is different from anyone else,” one of them said to another.



“Yes, Jesus is different. The lake is quiet now.”

The friend thought a minute. “Yes. And we feel quiet, too. We aren’t afraid any more. Jesus helps us when we are afraid.”









MARY ALICE JONES is one of the best known and most highly regarded authorities in the field of religious education for children. A keen student of child psychology, she knows how to present the difficult subjects of God, Jesus, and the Bible so they have a vital meaning to the child, based on his own interest and experience. These outstanding beginning religious books were either written by or are recommended by Miss Jones.

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